

RSV Vaccine: Fast Facts

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infects the nose, throat, and lungs. It spreads easily from person to person, making it very contagious. It's like a cold, but more dangerous. It's most common in the fall and winter seasons.

Protection

The RSV vaccine can help protect against the virus. You cannot get RSV from the vaccine. It is proven to be very safe for people. It can be given one of two ways:

- During pregnancy – You can get the vaccine while you're pregnant.
 - Protection is passed from the pregnant parent to the baby.
 - You should get the vaccine between 32 and 36 weeks of pregnancy.
 - The vaccine can only be given one time between September and January.
- Directly to a baby – Your baby can get the antibody shot after birth if you did not get the vaccine during pregnancy or are not sure if you got it.
 - It's recommended for babies younger than 8 months old.
 - The shot is given one time between October and March.

Fast Facts

- If you get the vaccine during pregnancy, your baby does not need to get the shot. However, if you give birth **less than 2 weeks** after getting the vaccine, your baby needs a shot to be protected from RSV.
- The vaccine and antibodies are safe. They will not harm mother or baby.
- Common side effects are mild. They can include pain, redness, and swelling at the injection site.

Did you get the RSV vaccine while pregnant?

☐ Yes, date of vaccine: _____ ☐ No

Talk to your baby's doctor or health care provider for more information.